

1 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Collection Guidance Staff, DD/I

FROM: Chief, Trade and Services Division, ORR

SUBJECT: Agency Exploitation of Aerial Photography of Targets
in North Vietnam

1. This Division is charged with the responsibility of coordinating and producing DD/I intelligence studies of the effects of US air campaigns against target systems in North Vietnam. The effective and timely execution of this assignment is determined by the rapidity with which aerial photography is available for exploitation by the CIA Imagery Analysis Staff.

2. Attached at Tab A is the apparent sequence for the exploitation of aerial reconnaissance of North Vietnam. Tab A makes it clear that the normal processing and circulation of this photography makes it almost impossible for CIA to respond quickly to requests for evaluations of US air strikes over North Vietnam. Although in high priority cases measures can be and frequently are taken to expedite CIA/IAS access to film, a more effective and reliable procedure needs to be inaugurated.

3. Attached at Tab B is a list of recently attacked targets for which photography is needed urgently if we are to respond to a current request from the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of State which must be answered by 10 May.

4. As a first step I recommend that every measure possible be undertaken to obtain immediate CIA/IAS access to all available film relative to assessing the bomb damage sustained by the targets listed in Tab B. If necessary, Agency couriers should be directed to the field to obtain copies of the film or specific prints.

5. As a second and concurrent step, I recommend that steps be taken to initiate a procedure whereby a duplicate print of all pertinent photography be made in the field for transmission through Agency channels to CIA/IAS.

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Attachments:
as stated

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1 - DD/I

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